

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Horst Muller et al.  
Serial No. : Unassigned  
Filed : Herewith  
Title : POLYMER

**BOX PCT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Amend claims 10, 15, 17-26, 28, 31-36, and 38 as follows:

--7. (Amended) The polymer microparticle dispersed in an aqueous phase and with a fully crosslinked exterior, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ethylenically monofunctional compound in steps a) and b) is the same.--

--8. (Amended) The polymer microparticle dispersed in an aqueous phase and with a fully crosslinked exterior, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ethylenically monofunctional compound in steps a) and b) is different.--

--9. (Amended) The polymer microparticle dispersed in an aqueous phase and with a fully crosslinked exterior, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the polymer selected from a polyesterpolyol, polyurethane and/or polyacrylate contains on average per molecule at least one free carboxyl group that originates from trimellitic acid or trimellitic anhydride.--

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